

Virginia Cooperative Extension Services



Parent Cooperative Program with a Taste of 4-H

Linda G. Murphy, Senior Extension Agent
Family & Consumer Sciences

The Parenting Cooperative Program was launched in March 2006 to promote a safe and positive environment to encourage social development of youth, ages 4-12, and their parents. The program consists of two components. The parenting component is a 6-week program based on Extension’s Positive Parenting Program. It provides parents with the knowledge and potential to strengthen parent-child relationships and increase and improve levels of social skills. It nurtures the capacity for conscientious parenting and encourages cooperation and effective communication.

A Taste of 4-H provides fun and enriching activities for youth, ages 4-12, and encourages social development while their parents are engaged in the Positive Parenting Program. It provides youth with an introduction to six of the 4-H Program’s curriculum areas. Led by an adult, the program incorporates teen volunteers. *Teens, this is a volunteer opportunity for community service.*

Both components provide youth and adults the opportunity to model civility and integrity. Upon completion of the parent program, parents may continue to engage their children in the Taste of 4-H by becoming a volunteer. They will rotate time with other parents to have the opportunity to have some ‘free time’.

Registration is being taken for the fall and winter sessions. The **fall** session is being held at Floyd T. Binns Middle School, Thursdays, September 7, 14, 21, 28, October 5 and 12, 6-8 p.m. **or** on Saturdays, September 9, 16, 23, 30, October 7 and 14 at the Culpeper Baptist Church from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The **winter** sessions will be Thursdays, October 26, November 2, 9, 16, 30, and December 7 at Floyd T. Binns Middle School from 6-8 p.m. **or** at the Culpeper Baptist Church on Saturdays, October 28, November 4, 11, 18, December 2, and 9 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

To register, complete the following registration form and mail to Parenting Cooperative Program, 101 S. West St., Culpeper, VA 22701. Or you may call 540-727-3435 to register.

This program is funded by a grant from Culpeper County Human Services. Jennifer McCauley is the Program Coordinator. Deb Burkett is the 4-H Program Assistant.

Parenting Cooperative Program

Please complete **all** information.

Name _____ Phone _____ evening

Address _____ day

City/State _____ Zip _____

I plan to attend the following 6-part session: **FALL** _____ **WINTER** _____

At the following location: **Thursdays** at Floyd T. Binns Middle School _____

Saturdays at Culpeper Baptist Church _____

Youth Registration for **“A TASTE OF 4-H”** (ages 4-12)

Please list all children with their ages that will be attending this program.

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

“Memoirs of an Intern”

Kelly N. Carter, Rising Senior at Virginia Tech
Intern with Virginia Cooperative Extension, Culpeper Office

It felt like the first day of school. I laid out my outfit the night before ensuring that it would look perfect, triple checked my alarm clock before going to sleep and eating a healthy breakfast before heading out the door. It was June 5, 2006, and it was my first day as an intern with Virginia Cooperative Extension, Culpeper Office.

As we go though college those first couple of years, our thoughts center around midterms, finals, papers, friends, Greek life, clubs, and where the best party is going to be for the next weekend. But, then there comes a point that you realize you have less time left in college than time spent and that the reality of the “real world” is staring you in the face. With that fate staring me in the face, I have started to narrow down what I want to do in life.

I have always been fortunate that I have had a general idea of where I wanted to go in life, but I assure you that the path to get there has changed frequently. I began to look at the skills I have to bring to the job. I like to talk. I’m a people person. I’m dedicated. I’ve always valued happiness over money. I like animals and kids, and I can’t stand to live my 9-5 behind a desk. I grew up in the 4-H program showing livestock at the local and state levels and was in and out of the office here in Culpeper frequently; but I never completely understood everything that the Extension Office had to offer and what all they did to provide me with the opportunities that I received. With the background that I had and the qualities I possess as a person, Extension really began to appeal to me.

I started by contacting the local office, filling out the forms and waiting for all the approvals to come through. Well, they did and here I am a genuine Culpeper County Extension Office Intern...what next? It is here that my story really begins. I cannot begin to express how much I have already learned and experienced in the short time I have been here. For those of you that do not know, Virginia Cooperative Extension is a dynamic resource here in Culpeper County. They offer an amazing variety of programs for youth, nutrition education for adults and youth, parenting programs, agriculture services, gardening help and much more. I have had the incredible opportunity to do work with some extraordinary folks in the Culpeper office in all of the fields that Extension encompasses.

Continued on page 28 see Memoirs

www.ext.vt.edu

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Services (*Continued*)



Virginia Cooperative Extension
Knowledge for the Commonwealth



Fall Forage Planning and Fescue Stock Piling

Carl C. Stafford, Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources

Time is fast approaching for late summer/early fall forage planting and fescue stock piling. Many of us do not own a drill and must get on a reservation list for planting forages. There are at least two sources in the area. Mid August is the earliest we would suggest you schedule this task.

One big concern in mid-August though will be the soil moisture. The trigger is certainly time of year, but soil moisture is also important. Let's assume there will have been some rain, so set your sights on having the soil fertility adjusted according to soil test by then. This testing service is free to farmers at our lab in Blacksburg. Give my office a call (727-3435) and we can send you the needed supplies.

Let's go back to planning forage planting in August. Your name is on the list for the drill. Soil tests have come back,. Lime is spread, and needed fertilizer is ordered. What about seed? Think about ordering that now as well, so you get what you want. There is a growing interest in the novel endophyte fescue. This fescue contains a fungus that does not hurt livestock. Most of the old fescue fields we have growing on farms have a toxic fungus harmful to livestock. Only use the novel endophyte fescue where you are renovating and have a clean field. Seeding it into existing fescue stands would have little value. Try to get clover into those old stands to help dilute toxic fescue effects.

As for orchardgrass, ask your supplier if they can get Benchmark or Benchmark Plus.

This variety was at the top of our multi-year yield trials. We know orchardgrass needs to be taken better care of than fescue. Modern disk mowers will scalp stands and really work the best when set to cut low. However, low cutting will accelerate the decline of any orchardgrass stand you have. I know of one farmer that successfully killed his new stand in two years with a disk mower. I gave a talk on this subject last winter, and a producer in the audience said his orchardgrass did just fine when cut low. I can't argue with experience but all the science tells us to leave some residue even when you graze.

Speaking of grazing orchardgrass, I have heard more than one producer say that it will not work in pastures. They are right, if you continuously graze. If you rotate your fields, they will rest most of the time between grazing. Cattle will kill out orchardgrass with close grazing just like the disk mower. The trick with grazing is to allow some time for regrowth and enough residue to fuel that regrowth. An old farmer in Missouri was quoted as saying he over-seeded orchardgrass and clover into some of his pastures every year. He practices rotational grazing in a climate much like ours here in Virginia.

As for stockpiling, we know the best plant for this important profit center is fescue. It responds well to nitrogen and holds its quality into winter. Tests in February find stockpiled fescue equal to or better than most of the hay we are feeding. A good target date for starting this practice is the middle of August. Have

stock pile fields cut or grazed close by then. Apply 60 to 80 pounds of nitrogen per acre and pray for rain. This has been our standard recommendation for decades. A new twist has come from work by Dr. Chris Teutsch, forage specialist at Blackstone. I traveled there at the end of June to hear from Chris at his field day near Fort Pickett. His work points out the value of two nitrogen applications timed to avoid putting all of your money into one basket.

Rainfall in August is often hard to come by. He says you can consider an alternative approach which would be to apply 40 pounds by mid-August and 40 pounds in September, if rains come. Chris found that doing this did not reduce the volume of stockpiled forage and spread your weather risk. He also examined fertilizer economics to help us understand the value of this input and its relationship to yield response. He did a study on two farms in the area that showed there was a baseline yield on stockpiled fescue of 2500 pounds of dry matter per acre without nitrogen. This land had adequate fertility and a healthy nitrogen cycle from multiple years of poultry litter. To justify buying nitrogen for stockpiling, you have to know that you will get a large enough yield response to pay for the added cost. Granted, his work showed that dry matter yields could double when nitrogen was applied. Basically, land that is lowest in nitrogen will give a better response to added nitrogen, so long as there is enough P and K.

Every day you graze in winter can be a day that costs 50% less than a hay-feeding day.

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No two days are alike. I am always learning, and I am surrounded by wonderful people. I couldn't ask for any more than that in my Intern experience.

I have already gained enough stories from my short time here in Extension to have conversation for several dinners. From surveying a pasture for a person in the horse industry looking for plants that could pose a danger to her horses and was thick with poison ivy

(which I am highly allergic to, but was so focused on making a good first impression that I went out to do the job anyway) to having my hands coated in tie-dye from helping kids at day-camp. That tid-bit would only be funny if you have been around me for some time. Let's just say that I was the child that colored in the lines in school.

I would like to conclude with a quote:

"The road to happiness lies in two simple principles: find what interests you and that you can do well, and put your whole soul into it -

www.ext.vt.edu

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every bit of energy and ambition and natural ability you have."

-John D. Rockefeller-

I have found the work that makes me happy and that I can do well. I can't ask for any more than that.

If you would like more information on the programs that Extension has to offer, please give us a call at (540) 727-3435 or visit our website at

www.ext.vt.edu/offices/culpeper.

9TH ANNUAL CULPEPER HARVEST DAYS FARM TOUR OCT. 7 & 8



The roots of America, and certainly those of Culpeper County, are firmly planted in its farming heritage. From the very first days when the colonists set foot in the New World and the Native Americans began offering basic crop planting lessons, agriculture has been at the heart of our lives and our nation. Agriculture provides not only the food we eat, but plays a vital role in the economy of our state and our country.



Today, many people work and live in cities and towns and do their shopping at the supermarket. Weekends are spent at sporting or cultural events and performing necessary chores. The pace of our lives offers little chance to understand or appreciate the importance of agriculture in shaping both our past and our future. The Culpeper Harvest Days Farm Tour provides everyone with the opportunity to learn more about how farming grows not only crops, but our economy as well. Even if you are a long-time resident of Culpeper, Harvest Days is an opportunity to spend time with the family, have a great time, and learn what life can be like down on the farm.

The Town & County of Culpeper will welcome visitors from near and far for the Harvest Days Farm Tour on October 7th and 8th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Celebrating its 9th season as a Culpeper attraction, Harvest Days will feature sixteen different sites on tour this year, plus the Welcome Center, the Farmer's Market and the Piedmont Rail-roads Exhibit all located in or near the Depot on Commerce Street.

The Culpeper Office of Economic Development and the Agricultural Resource Advisory Committee coordinate this event, but the Steering Committee for the Harvest Days Farm Tour includes representatives from the Town, the County and the farms themselves. The Committee has been busily working since February to choose farms and activities to make the 9th Annual Harvest Days Farm Tour the best ever!



Some of the farms this year are new to the tour, and all farms are offering special tours of their unique sites and many opportunities for family entertainment. One farm even has a moon bounce and mini-golf as part of the attractions. Several locations have live music and food available. Gospel singing on Sunday morning, anyone? Perhaps meandering down a path surrounded by herbs and flowers or petting a friendly farm animal might appeal to you. Touring a winery or purchasing some local honey, painting a pumpkin or getting lost in a hay maze are all part of the fun to be found at the Harvest Days Farm Tour. Be sure to check out the brochure or the website to see which dates each farm is open and plan your visits accordingly. Copies of the brochure will be available on-line and at the Visitor's Center at the Depot, or by calling the Office of Economic Development at 540-727-3410.

Volunteers are needed to welcome visitors to the farm sites. If you would like to help out for a few hours on either Saturday or Sunday, please call Beth Bunch or Lori Sorrentino at Culpeper Tourism – 727-0611, or Stacey Brown at Economic Development – 727-3410 for more information on how to have fun and earn a free t-shirt while serving your community!


We hope you will join the fun on October 7th and 8th as our Town, our County and visitors from all over come together to enjoy the sights and shops of downtown Culpeper, tour our beautiful farms and celebrate how, in Culpeper County, commerce truly grows on the farm!

**Come out and enjoy the Farm Tour.
Pick your stops or enjoy them all.**



**763 Madison Road, Suite 208
Culpeper, VA 22701
(540) 829-2065 x 308 FAX: (540) 829-0297
www.healthyculpeper.org**

Healthy Culpeper is a collaboration of over 55 community partner agencies and organizations working together to create a healthy, secure, and educated community. Four committees work on community issues and they include Adult/Senior, Teen, Youth, and Early Childhood. Check out our website for more details!



Healthy Culpeper

**763 Madison Rd Ste 208
Culpeper, VA 22701**

Contact:

Denise Walker
Program
Coordinator

829-2065 x 313
walker@hfculpeper.org
FAX: 829-0297

Make a difference...

Become a Healthy Culpeper Youth Mentor!

The Healthy Culpeper mission is to nurture youth from families in Culpeper to help them achieve their full potential and become active and productive members of the community.

What is a Healthy Culpeper Youth Mentor?

A Healthy Culpeper Youth Mentor is a volunteer who wants to work with a young person, boy or girl, to provide guidance and support as they transition to young adulthood. All mentors are screened (including background checks), interviewed and trained before being paired with a youth.

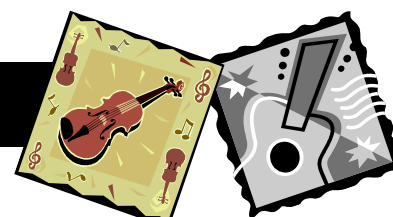
How does the Program Work?

Every month, the mentor will spend time with the partnered youth, engaging in fun and enriching activities. The Program Coordinator, Denise Walker, will check in to see how things are going, and twice a year all mentors and youths will be invited to a special activity/event!

Applications are available on our website: www.healthyculpeper.org under Initiatives/Programs-Youth Mentoring Program. Mentors must live in the Culpeper area and make a minimum of a one-year commitment to the partnered youth.



After School Arts Program



**This free program is offered to Middle & High School
Students residing in Culpeper**

**Join us for another exciting year of fun...
learn and create something new....express yourself!**

Fall 2006 Classes (September 11-November) at Culpeper Middle School, 3:30-5:00:

Creative Art Sampler

Drawing/Painting I

Violin I

Quilting

Drawing/Painting II

Beginning Guitar

Creative Writing

Registration deadline - Aug. 28

Hurry! Class sizes are limited!

Registration Form available at our website: www.healthyculpeper.org

Contact: Denise Walker, Program Coordinator

(540) 829-2065 x313 Walker@hfculpeper.org

Support provided by Culpeper Public Schools, Culpeper Human Services, Culpeper County Parks & Recreation, Windmore, Mid-Day Lions, Northern Piedmont Community Foundation and other private sources.

SAVING LIVES

A letter to our Community

In 2003, our community lost four (4) young people to suicide. As a result, a group of individuals came together to address teen suicide in Culpeper and formed what is now called the Healthy Culpeper Prevention Coalition.

Because of the early efforts of the Healthy Culpeper Prevention Coalition to develop a comprehensive suicide prevention program in Culpeper, the Rappahannock-Rapidan Community Services Board was awarded a three (3) year \$210,000 grant in October 2005 not only to continue to address teen suicide in Culpeper County, but to expand these efforts to Fauquier, Orange, Madison, and Rappahannock Counties.

I was named Director of this grant and will be hiring 1.5 staff to help with this program. As part of this suicide prevention initiative, training is being done for school personnel, parents, students, local agency staff who work with individuals at risk, churches, civic organizations and other key community members.

This training teaches the warning signs of individuals who are at risk for suicide and how to intervene and obtain help for that person. This training is about an intervention technique called QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer). It is a technique that anyone can learn and literally saves lives.

Prior to the grant I trained school personnel at the Culpeper Middle School and 500 students at Culpeper High School. Since receiving the grant in October 2005 an additional 207 community members and key agency personnel have been trained, as well as 495 Culpeper High School students.

The Virginia Adolescent and Resiliency Assessment (VARA) was administered in 2004 to Culpeper students in grades 7 through 12. Two thousand one hundred sixty-four surveys (2,164) were included in the analysis, and the results were based on student responses.

The survey results revealed that 30% of the students reported feeling depressed or sad. Thirty-six per cent (36%) of the girls and twenty-five (25%) of the boys responded, "Yes" when asked, "During the past 12 months have you ever felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?"

Twenty per cent (20%) of the students reported making a suicide plan within the past year about how they would attempt suicide. Seventeen per cent (17%) of the girls and fourteen per cent (14%) of the boys responded that they had actually attempted suicide within the past year. The frequency of attempts was highest for the 9th grade girls and boys.

The survey further noted that the data collected reflects that feelings of depression and sadness as well as the potential for suicide are problems for both boys and girls of Culpeper.

The efforts that the Healthy Culpeper Prevention Coalition have made so far are just a beginning. There is no way we can do this alone. We need your help. Suicide is a community problem, and it is everyone's business.

If you or your organization is interested in the suicide prevention training, or being a part of Healthy Culpeper Prevention Coalition, please contact me by phone at 540-825-5656 x-133 or by email at arasmussen@rrcsb.org.

Get involved and let's make a difference!

Alan Rasmussen
Teen Suicide Prevention Director

Culpeper County Department of Health

NEW JULY 1 LAW REQUIRES TDAP VACCINE FOR RISING 6TH GRADERS

(Culpeper, Va.)— As of July 1, a new Virginia law requires all children who will be enrolled in the sixth grade this Fall to receive one dose of the Tdap vaccine, if at least 5 years have passed since the last tetanus-containing vaccine. The Tdap vaccine protects against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. Health officials remind parents to call their child’s primary care provider now to make arrangements to make sure their child receives this vaccine before school starts. Also, the Tdap vaccine is administered free of charge at all local health departments, including the Culpeper Health Department, which runs immunization clinics on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 8:30 until 10:30 a.m.

Vaccines are among the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease and death. They not only help protect vaccinated individuals from developing potentially serious diseases, they also help protect entire communities by preventing and reducing the spread of disease.

The Tdap vaccine is one of several, including MMR, varicella, hepatitis B and meningococcal vaccines, that are recommended for adolescents. Tdap will help prevent the spread of tetanus, or “lockjaw”, which is a painful tightening of the muscles, usually all over the body. It can also lead to “locking” of the jaw so the ill person cannot open his mouth or swallow. Diphtheria is a serious disease that causes a thick covering in

the back of the throat and can lead to breathing problems, paralysis, heart failure and even death. Pertussis, or “whooping cough”, has been on the rise across Virginia in recent years. It causes severe coughing spells that can be so harmful as to make it difficult for the ill person to eat, drink and breathe. The illness can last for weeks.

Parents and caregivers should prepare their children for school immunizations as soon as possible. In addition to the Tdap vaccine, parents should be proactive in making sure all childhood vaccinations and boosters are up-to-date. Protecting against serious illness doesn’t stop at early childhood vaccinations. As children age, many times they fall behind on their immunization schedules. College-bound teens should also make sure they have received their meningococcal and hepatitis B vaccines. All new full-time students attending any four year college or university in Virginia are required to be vaccinated against both of these diseases. If not, they must formally sign a waiver refusing the vaccines. Anyone can get meningococcal disease (usually meningitis or blood poisoning), but college freshmen, particularly those that live in dormitories, have a slightly higher risk than other university students.

For more information on immunizations and to check the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) childhood immunization schedule, log onto the VDH Division of Immunization Web page at <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/imm>. or visit <http://www.cdc.gov/nip> or call Jo Bond, at the Health Department, at 540/672-1290.

Rappahannock-Rapidan Medical Reserve Corps

Are you prepared for the hurricane, tornado, and severe thunderstorm season which is upon us? Do you want to assist your friends and neighbors in the event of a natural or man-made disaster?

In emergencies the Rappahannock-Rapidan Medical Reserve Corps supplements existing local emergency and public health resources by working with the:

- Virginia Department of Health
- Fauquier, Culpeper-Madison, and Rappahannock Area Chapters of the American Red Cross
- Culpeper, Madison, Fauquier, Orange and Rappahannock Counties
- Towns of Culpeper, Madison, Orange and Warrenton
- Culpeper Regional Hospital and Fauquier Hospital

After the RRMRC volunteers receive orientation, they have the opportunity to learn more through monthly trainings. Trainings for the remainder of the year consist of:

- Family and Personal Preparedness
- CPR
- Pandemic Flu
- Isolation and Quarantine
- Psychological First Aid

Orientations are held every other month and are scheduled in July, September, and November this year.

Congratulations to the following volunteers who completed Epidemiology 201 on June 27 and will attend Epidemiology 301 in January:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Kimberly Johnson-Smith | |
| April Markgraf | Judith Tolhurst |
| Carole Roddy | Richard Vento |
| Michael Roddy | Claudia Vento |
| James Smith | Karen Woods |

Of the 338 RRMRC volunteers who have completed the application process, 255 have completed the training.

- | | |
|---------------------|----|
| Culpeper County | 67 |
| Fauquier County | 81 |
| Madison County | 26 |
| Orange County | 67 |
| Rappahannock County | 13 |

Please consider joining the Rappahannock-Rapidan Medical Reserve Corps today! You do not need to have medical training, and the time commitment is only 3-6 hours per year. Applications and more information can be found at <http://rrmrc.vdh.virginia.gov>.

For more information please call 540-829-7350 or email RRMRC@vdh.virginia.gov.

Have you become physically and/or verbally abusive to your spouse or significant other? Help is available. Contact Culpeper County Criminal Justice Services at 540-727-3450 for a referral to a treatment provider.



What you Should Know about Your Septic System

*The proper care and treatment of your septic system
By Martin Johnson, former editor of the CSWCD newsletter*

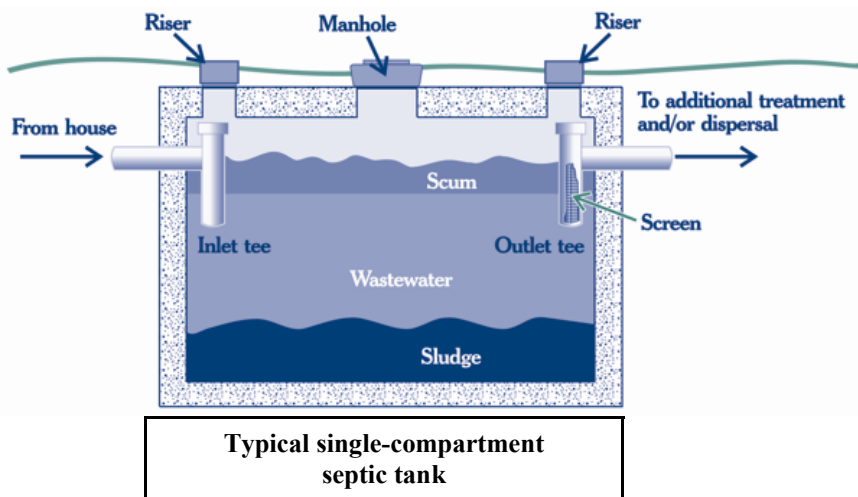
Twenty-three percent of the U.S. population relies on onsite wastewater treatment systems, most of which are septic systems. A septic system is a highly efficient, self-contained, underground wastewater treatment system. Because septic systems treat and dispose of household water onsite, they are often more economical than centralized sewer systems in rural areas where lot sizes are larger, and houses are spaced widely apart.

Septic systems are simple in design, which makes them generally less expensive to install and maintain than centralized systems. And by using natural processes to treat the wastewater onsite, usually in a homeowner's backyard, septic systems don't require the installation of miles of sewer lines, making them less disruptive to the environment.

A septic system consists of two main parts – a septic tank and a drainfield. The septic tank is a watertight box, usually made of concrete or fiberglass, with an inlet and outlet pipe. Wastewater flows from the home to the septic tank through the sewer pipe. The septic tank treats the wastewater naturally by holding it in the tank long enough for solids and liquids to separate. The wastewater forms three layers inside the tank. Solids lighter than water (such as greases and oils) float to the top, forming a layer of scum. Solids heavier than water settle at the bottom of the tank, forming a layer of sludge. This leaves the middle layer of partially clarified wastewater.

The layers of sludge and scum remain in the septic tank, where bacteria found naturally in the wastewater work to break the solids down. The sludge and scum that cannot be broken down are retained in the tank until the tank is pumped. The layer of clarified liquid flows from the septic tank to the drainfield.

A standard drainfield (also known as a leachfield, disposal field or a soil absorption system) is a series of trenches or a bed lined with gravel or coarse sand, and buried one to three feet below the ground surface. Perforated pipes or drain tiles run through the trenches to distribute the wastewater. The drainfield treats the wastewater by allowing it to slowly trickle from the pipes out onto the gravel and down through the soil. The gravel and soil act as biological filters.



If you own a septic system, it is important that it be properly maintained to extend its life and prevent contamination of ground and surface water. How often you need to pump the solids out of the septic tank depends on three major factors:

- The number of people in your household
- The amount of wastewater generated (based on the number of people in the household and the amount of water used);
- The volume of solids in the wastewater (e.g. using a garbage disposal will increase the amount of solids).

For information about deicers, best management practices, reporting pollution, moving dirt or other issues regarding soil & water conservation, please contact Stephanie Rose DeNicola, Communications Specialist of Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District at (540) 825-8591.

Although your septic tank absorption field generally does not require maintenance, you should adhere to the following rules to prolong its functional life:

- **Do not** drive over the absorption field with cars, trucks or heavy equipment;
- **Do not** plant trees or shrubbery in the absorption field, because the roots can get into the lines and plug them;
- **Do not** cover the absorption field with hard surfaces, such as concrete or asphalt. Grass is the best cover, because it will help prevent erosion and help remove excess water.
- **Do** divert surface runoff water from roofs, patios, driveways and other areas away from the absorption field.

Homeowners wanting to take good care of their septic systems should make note of the following items that should never be flushed down the drain or toilet. These items can overtax the system, or clog the pumps and tiles.

Hair combings	Coffee grounds
Dental floss	Disposable diapers
Kitty litter	Sanitary napkins
Tampons	Cigarette butts
Condoms	Gauze bandages
Fat, grease or oil	Paper towels

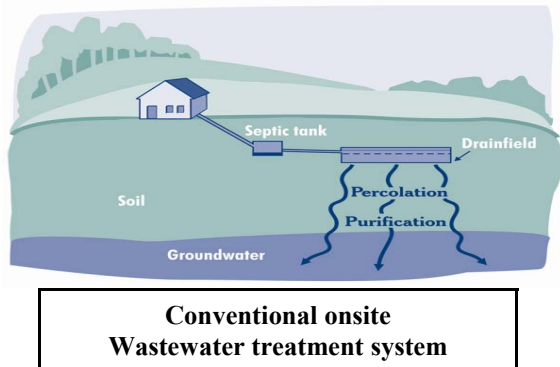
And NEVER flush chemicals that could contaminate the surface and groundwater, such as:

Paints	Waste oils
Varnishes	Pesticides
Thinners	Photographic Solutions

According to the EPA, properly sited, constructed and managed onsite wastewater treatment systems are an effective means of protecting human health and the environment. In addition to the advantages in construction and maintenance costs mentioned above, they also avoid potentially large transfers of water from one watershed to another that can occur with centralized collection and treatment.

If you are looking for more information on how to properly maintain your septic system, avoid potential system problems, or are planning on buying or selling a home with a septic system, you can download free brochures at:

www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc_septicnews.htm.



Sources:

1. "Septic System Information", *NSFC Septic News*, www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc_septicnews.htm
2. *USEPA Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Manual*, www.adwwa.org/news.htm

Environmental Services

5th CULPEPER COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Culpeper County’s fifth household hazardous waste collection event totals are in! The event was held on Saturday, June 3, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Culpeper County School Maintenance Department parking lot on Radio Lane, Culpeper. Care Environmental of Landing, New Jersey collected 42-drums of flammable liquids, paints, corrosives and pesticides and 24 cubic yard boxes of hazardous waste still in containers. A breakdown of the waste streams collected is provided below.

Culpeper Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event
June 3, 2006

Quantity	Unit	Contents
13	55 Gallon drum	Liquid Pesticides
1	55 Gallon drum	Solid Pesticides
1	55 Gallon drum	Corrosive Acids
3	55 Gallon drum	Corrosive Bases
3	55 Gallon drum	Oxidizing Liquids
1	55 Gallon drum	Dry Cell Batteries
8	55 Gallon drum	Flammable Liquid
7	55 Gallon drum	Flammable Paint
3	55 Gallon drum	Latex Paint
2	55 Gallon drum	Motor Oil
22	Cubic Yard	Flammable Liquids
2	Cubic Yard	Flammable Aerosols



This Hazardous Waste Collection Event cost the County \$26,550 this year. We would like to thank all the residents who participated in the 2006 collection event for disposing of their hazardous waste properly. We would also like to encourage residents who have not participated in any of our previous events, or any resident who did not participate in our last event to join us next spring, which is when our next collection will be held.

Improper disposal of hazardous products pollutes our environment and can injure collection workers. Some of the items we accept during the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection event are as follows:

Paints (Latex and Oil)	Household Cleaners
Paint Thinners and Solvents	Oxidizers (Pool Chemicals & Bleach)
Auto and Household Batteries	Photographic Chemicals
Motor Oil and Antifreeze	Unwanted Fuels (Gasoline, Kerosene)
Solid/Liquid Pesticides	Corrosives (Ammonia, Drain Cleaner)
Poisons, Aerosol Cans, Acids	Insecticides/Pesticides/Herbicides
Adhesives	

Be on the lookout for our advertisement in the Winter 2006 and Spring 2007 editions of The Culpeper Minutes for time and date of our next event. In the meantime, if you have any questions about how to recycle or dispose of any waste, please call Environmental Services at (540) 727-3409.

Culpeper County Transfer Station
Tipping Fee Increase
Effective September 1, 2006

Due to the rising costs of operating the Culpeper County Transfer Station, the cost to dispose of waste is rising from \$46.31 per ton, to \$48.53 per ton (or \$ 2.43 per 100 pounds) effective September 1, 2006. No other changes to the disposal policy have been implemented.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this cost increase, please contact Environmental Services at (540) 727-3409.

The Laurel Valley Solid Waste Transfer Station is located about 5 miles northwest of the Town of Culpeper (just off Route 522.) This facility is for the sole use of Culpeper County residents, property owners or duly authorized permit holders. A valid County or Town decal is required to use the Transfer Station.
Hours of Operation:
Residential Convenience Center
Monday through Saturday 7 am to 7 pm
Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm
Scales
Monday through Saturday 7 am to 4:30 pm

TRANSFER STATION - REMINDER!!!

Please remove ALL oil and gasoline from mowers that being disposed of at the Culpeper County Transfer Station. The Transfer Station is unable to accept ANY mower that is not empty. Mowers with fuel and or oil still in them are classified as hazardous and could combust under the conditions waste is subjected to at the Transfer Station.



Thank you!

Environmental Services
(540) 727-3409
New Address: 118 West Davis Street, Suite 101

Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney

Gary Close

Commonweath's Attorney Office Moves

Visiting the Commonwealth Attorney's Office for many is a little like visiting an IRS office. You don't really want to, but you realize you must.

Well visiting the Office may still not be the most pleasant experience, but it did get a little better last month. The Office moved out of cramped and outdated quarters in the courthouse to a new office in the old Town Municipal Building

"Some may remember it as the old Library," said Commonwealth Attorney Gary Close.

In the Courthouse the Office had expanded into Courthouse hallways.

"We sort of just occupied territory," joked Close. A secretary desk and reception area sat in the middle of one hallway. Files and office supplies filled another short hallway. Two attorneys shared one cramped office, and the largest room to meet in was another office.

"Now there is room to meet with victims and witnesses without evicting someone from an office," said Close. In addition to the separate offices for prosecutors and secretaries, the Victim/Witness Office is now under the same roof. That is a first for Culpeper County.

"I think it will better help us to serve witnesses and victims when we are within shouting distance of each other," Close said. "And I think there is economy in using the same facilities, like the conference room, copiers and receptionist.

For Close, who is known as a lover of old homes, renovating the old Municipal Building made the move that much more exciting.

"Of particular note are the original maple floors," Close said.

"Absolutely stunning," commented one local official who saw them recently.

"I know I drove the contractor crazy about those floors," Close said. "But there was no way I was going to cover them up, even if I had to do the sanding myself. And I've sanded a few floors."

It took two days for the Office to move. It took about another two weeks to work out all the kinks.

"Carol Geer organized the move for us. As is usual in any law office, it takes the secretary to make things happen," Close said. "I was amazed at how smoothly it all went."



Gary Close

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

Anyone associated with the Culpeper Court System will tell you that non-citizens fill more seats in the courtroom now than ever before.

"Many are illegal aliens," said Gary Close, Commonwealth's Attorney.

"We can't conduct court now unless there is a translator available," he said.

In an effort to learn how to deal with both legal and illegal aliens who commit crimes, the Culpeper Commonwealth Attorney's Office sponsored a seminar for law enforcement on June 23rd. Leading the seminar were three officials from the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE): the Resident Agent in Charge of the Harrisonburg ICE office, the Acting Special Agent in Charge for the Washington, D.C. Field Office and the Special Agent in Charge of the Fairfax Field Office.

About forty officers attended. Represented were the Culpeper Town Police, the Sheriff's Office, the State Police, Coffeewood Correctional Center, Probation and Parole, the Division of Motor Vehicles, and the Division of Game and Inland Fisheries.

The main focus of the seminar aimed at notification procedures for ICE when convicted aliens are in Culpeper Jails. As a result of the seminar Culpeper prosecutors will now on a regular basis notify ICE of convicted non-citizens for deportation procedures.

"If non-citizens in this country break the law in Culpeper, I will act to see that ICE knows about it. Where deportation is appropriate, we will work closely with ICE to make it happen," said Close.

Dale Durrer, Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, helped organize the event.

"Sending not one, but three officials, to the seminar tells me that ICE is serious about the problem of non-citizens who break the law," Durrer said.



Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney
(540) 727-3441
118 West Davis Street, Culpeper

**OFFICE OF THE TREASURER
CULPEPER COUNTY
David L. DeJarnette, Treasurer**



If you have a Delinquent Tax Amount Due for Personal Property Taxes

for Tax Year 2005 or Prior Tax Year – Please read carefully:

The Virginia General Assembly has enacted several changes to the Personal Property Tax Relief Act (PPTRA) and has fundamentally changed how you will receive tax relief on your “qualified personal use” vehicles after December 31, 2005. As a result of this change, limited tax relief funds are available and not guaranteed for **unpaid** tax bills on qualified vehicles for **tax year 2005 and prior tax years**. If your tax bill remains **unpaid** after the funds budgeted by the state for tax relief for 2005 and prior years have been depleted* or **September 1, 2006 (*whichever occurs first)**, **you will be responsible for 100% of the original tax amount** in addition to penalties, interest and administrative fees that may apply.

EXAMPLE: A \$500 original tax bill for a qualifying vehicle could have received up to a 70% PPTRA tax relief adjustment. This would have resulted in a net tax due from the taxpayer of only \$150.00 if paid by December 5th of that tax year or \$150.00 plus penalty & interest if paid after December 5th. Should the state funds for PPTRA tax relief be depleted* or after September 1, 2006 (*whichever occurs first), the tax bill due for this particular example would be the original \$500.00 plus all penalty, interest and fees. In this example, the taxpayer would lose \$350.00 of state-funded tax relief.

Address Changes:

It is important that both the Office of the Treasurer and the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue have your correct mailing address. Our Office is required to send out annual tax bills to the last known address of record in our Office. If you have moved, changed addresses or contacted other governmental offices about an address change, we may still not have your correct mailing address. It is the taxpayer’s responsibility to advise our Office of any change in address.

Please call, stop by or e-mail our Office in order to verify that we have your correct mailing for current and future tax billing periods.

Office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday

Office located in the ground floor of the Courthouse building:

Culpeper County Treasurer
135 W. Cameron Street, Suite 7
Culpeper VA 22701

Phone: (540) 727-3442 Fax: (540) 727-3478 E-mail: ddejarnette@culpepercounty.gov

From Your Commissioner of the Revenue

Terry L. Yowell

General Reassessment 2007 Update:

Our Field Data Technicians have completed their assigned inspections. We would like to thank you again for your cooperation and support in this process. Your response to our request for information has been outstanding. Our Data Entry Clerks are entering that information now, and we look forward to having accurate updated property records. This will help us assess equitably.

Real Estate Assessment value is a reflection of the market value of a property at a particular date. Market Value is defined as: the price for which a property would sell if exposed on an open market for a reasonable length of time in order to find a willing purchaser with neither the buyer nor the seller being under duress to purchase or sell. Additionally, as provided by the Code of Virginia, assessments must be uniform and equitable.

In order to determine market value, sales of similar properties are compared. After allowing for the differences in the properties, an estimate of market value is determined. The key to this process is to utilize good comparables. We are beginning our analysis for values that will be applied to properties to bring the assessment to market value as of January 1, 2007.

While gathering the statistics, we have found a slowdown in new construction and in sales of new and existing properties. This spring, by the end of May, we had received 563 building permits issued for new construction. 314 of those permits were for single family dwellings. By the end of May 2005 we had received 740 building permits, of which 440 were for single family dwellings. This represents a decline of 28.64% in the number of building permits issued for single family dwellings and a 23.92% decline overall. At the end of May 2006, there were more than twice the number of properties on the market as May 2005, but properties are staying on the market nearly twice as long as in 2005. We will continue to monitor this slowdown to determine its effect on the market.

With the Culpeper County IT Department's assistance, our office is now able to provide real estate records online. This allows us to make the most up-to-date information available to you at all times. To access real property information go to www.culpepercounty.gov and under **ELECTED OFFICIALS** click on **Commissioner of the Revenue**. On the Commissioner's web page under **ONLINE SERVICES**, click on **e-Commissioner**. Click on **View Property Cards**. Click on **I Accept These Terms**. You may then search by **Owner Name** (last name only), **Map #** or **Street Name** (name only). You are always welcome to use the public access computer in our office to obtain this information or to assist you in your search.

The Commissioner of the Revenue Division of Real Estate Assessments is located in the Old Town Hall Building at 118 West Davis Street. Our telephone number is (540) 727-3411, and our fax number is (540) 727-3468. Except for holidays, we are open to the public between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM weekdays.

The more you know...

Assessing cars, light trucks and motorcycles

Pursuant to the Code of Virginia §58.1-3503, personal property such as cars, light trucks and motorcycles...*shall be valued by means of a recognized pricing guide or if the model and year of the individual automobile are not listed in the recognized pricing guide, the individual vehicle may be valued on the basis of percentage or percentages of original cost. If such percentage or percentages of original cost do not accurately reflect fair market value, or if the taxpayer does not supply proof of original cost, then the commissioner may select another method which establishes fair market value.*

Each assessment year we tend to have a large number of cars, light trucks and motorcycles that require manual valuation, because the vehicle cannot be electronically valued using the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) pricing guide. Typically, the reason for this is an error in the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) as recorded with DMV. This year, we have over 1,000 units that we will attempt to determine fair market value, to the best of our ability, given the information we have available. If you are concerned that your vehicle may not be valued with an exact match from NADA, consider taking a moment to compare the VIN number displayed on your next tax bill with the number affixed to your vehicle. If you find an error in the VIN number, please report the error to DMV and also to this office. I know this request may not be at the top of your "to do" list, but remember, the fair and equitable assessment of your property is only as good as the information we have available.

Attention Aircraft Owners:

In the past aircraft have been valued using an assessment method referred to as "assessment ratio". The ratio was 25% of fair market value (effectively one quarter of the true value). This practice is virtually obsolete. In compliance with the Code of Virginia §58.1-3503(B), all aircraft will be assessed at 100% fair market value effective tax year 2006. In previous years, the tax rate for aircraft was adopted at \$2.50 per hundred dollars of assessed value. Remember this rate was applied to a percentage of full value. The "effective" rate was actually \$0.625 (25% of 2.50) per hundred dollars of assessed value. For tax year 2006, the Board of Supervisors adopted a tax rate of \$0.63 per hundred dollars of assessed value. This rate effectively equalizes the tax with respect to the assessment method.

Now let's compare:

	2005 Assessment Method	2006 Assessment Method
Blue Book Value	48,000	48,000
Ratio assessment (x .25)	12,000	
Tax Rate (p. hundred)	2.50	0.63
Tax	300.00	302.40*

**nominal difference due to rounding of the tax rate.*

As always, if you have any questions, please contact me.



Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue
135 West Cameron Street, Suite 9
540-727-3443



CULPEPER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

H. LEE HART, SHERIFF

Deputy Receives Top Overall Achievement Award

Deputy Daniel Gent received the Top Overall Achievement Award from the Rappahannock Regional Criminal Justice Academy Jail Officer Basic Class on May 6, 2006. Deputy Gent has been with the Culpeper County Sheriff's Office since November 2005 and works as a Medical Officer in the Culpeper County Jail.



Welcome Back Deputy Greg Butler

The members of the Culpeper County Sheriff's Office would like to welcome Deputy Greg Butler back to the Sheriff's Office. Deputy Butler has been in law enforcement since 1993. During that time he has served with the Culpeper County Sheriff's Office and most recently with the Culpeper Police Department, until he rejoined the Sheriff's Office in July 2006.

Citizens' Academy Alumni Tour IIHS

The Culpeper County Sheriff's Office Citizens' Academy Alumni toured the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) on June 27, 2006. The IIHS located in Greene County is an independent, nonprofit, scientific and educational organization dedicated to reducing the losses — deaths, injuries, and property damage — from crashes on the nation's highways.



Culpeper Regional Airport



The summer months are always full of controlled chaos here at the airport. We are busiest of course in the summer months: with people taking trips, seemingly constant mowing, construction projects, special events and the planning of the annual Air Fest. Below is just a quick update on some of the special events and the upcoming Air Fest 2006.

On July 4, 2006, we started the Fourth of July parade with a fly-over down through the parade route. Even with the scorching heat, we had 10 planes participate. Pictured, you will see some of the planes that flew this year.

Whenever we need a showing of planes for an event, our based customers come through with flying colors, and we truly



Commemorative Air Force—two T6s waiting to take off

appreciate their enthusiasm and volunteerism.

We have also been working on the design for the new terminal building. We have accepted, after much deliberation, a bid proposal from **Studio Ammons** to work with the Airport Advisory Committee in designing our new terminal. We hope to have the design work done and be in the construction phase by this time next year. I'll keep you posted on this very exciting project.



Two planes returning from July 4th flyover.

Mark your calendars now to join us at the 7th annual **Culpeper Airport Air Fest** on Saturday, **October 14th, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Culpeper Regional Airport** located in Brandy Station, VA. **Raindate is Sunday, October 15th, 2006.** This **FREE** event has something for the entire family. Tour the County Airport, talk with the pilots about their planes and enjoy free airplane rides for ages 8-17 provided by the Young Eagles program. Aircraft from restored antiques to modern jets will be on display. Don't miss the Bealeton Flying Circus and their spectacular wing-walking event, the Hardee's Airshow Team and their RC model airplanes, Kevin Russo and his T6 and others performing in the afternoon. Also, come out and see the many spectacular WarBirds, including the Percival Provost, a

Royal Air Force Trainer, based here at Culpeper.

What is there for the younguns to do, you ask? The Culpeper County Parks & Recreation Department will have a number of neat demonstrations and arts & crafts just for the smaller aviators, not to mention the face painting and the model airplane simulator.

For those of you interested in keeping your feet firmly on the ground but would still love to experience flight, might I suggest that you take a simulated flight. Ken Hyde of the *Wright Experience* will be on hand with his simulator, a truly unique experience.

We can't forget the food. Goodies such as hamburgers, hot dogs, barbecue and pizza will be available for the lunch crowd.

Look to the sky on Friday, October 13th, from 3:30p.m. - 5:30p.m. and see an airplane towing a banner announcing the Air Fest on Saturday. It should be a neat sight.

Culpeper Airport is located approximately 9 miles North of the Town of Culpeper off Rt. 29. Turn left at the stop light at Ross Industries and follow the signs.

Come out and view life from another angle - see the County from the air!! For more information call (540) 825-8280 or visit the County website at: www.culpepercounty.gov.

Speaking of the Air Fest 2006, **we need volunteers!!!!** Some areas where we need assistance are parking cars, signing up kids for the Young Eagle Flights, refuse pick-up, set-up and take-down (tables/chairs, crowd control barriers, etc.) and other such jobs. We will provide you with an official Air Fest 2006 shirt, lunch on the day of the event and the experience of a lifetime. If you are interested in helping out, please call me at 540-825-8280 or drop me an email with your name, address, phone number and how you would like to help out at: twoodward@culpepercounty.gov or fill out our volunteer form on our link from the County website:

www.culpepercounty.gov.

We would not be able to put on such an exciting show if we didn't have the volunteers to help us.

Don't forget, if you would like to find out anything about our facility or White Hawk Aviation (Aircraft Maintenance and Flight School), just call us at the Airport, 540-825-8280. We are working together to help make your aviation dreams come true.

Culpeper Air Fest
Saturday, October 14th, 2006
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
at the Culpeper Regional Airport

Culpeper County Regional Airport—12517 Beverly Ford Road, Brandy Station, VA 22714

CULPEPER MINUTES

A Publication of
The Culpeper County
Board of Supervisors



The Administration Building
302 North Main Street
Culpeper, VA 22701

Phone: 540-727-3427
Fax: 540-727-3460

email: dhoffman@culpepercounty.gov

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FALL 2006

CULPEPER MINUTES

ISSUE TWENTY-FIVE

County Offices Move to New Locations

Renovations of the Old Town Hall located at 118 West Davis Street began in August of 2005.

With the completion of the renovations in March of 2006, several County departments have relocated their offices to this new office building, and several others have moved into spaces previously occupied by other departments.

Please make note of the new addresses for the following departments. Feel free to stop by and visit these offices at their new locations!

Crime Victim's Assistance Program

(540) 727-3413

Mark Nowacki-Director

New Address:

118 W. Davis Street, Suite 103

Commonwealth Attorney's Office

(540) 727-3441

Gary Close – Commonwealth Attorney

New Address:

118 W. Davis Street, Suite 102

Environmental Services

(540) 727-3409

Paul Howard, Jr. – Director

New Address:

118 W. Davis Street, Suite 101

Commissioner of the Revenue

Assessors Office

(540) 727-3411

Terry Yowell –

Commissioner of the Revenue

New Address:

118 W. Davis Street, Suite 100

Information Technology

(540) 727-3416

Dianna Catron - Director

New Address:

308 North Main Street

Human Resources

(540) 727-3422

Susanne Taylor – Director

New Address:

306 North Main Street

County Attorney

(540) 727-3407

John D. Maddox – County Attorney

New Address:

306 North Main Street

Procurement

(540) 727-3488

Alan Culpeper – Director

New Address:

101 S. West Street, Suite 300

Risk Management

(540) 727-3480

Sheila Farmer-Dumas – Director

New Address:

101 S. West Street

Telephone Number for Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT): 540-829-7500

To report Road Hazards or Snow-Flood Conditions: 800-367-7623 Toll Free